

REMARKS

Prior to an examination of this reissue application, entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

By this Preliminary Amendment, the specification has been amended to identify that this is a reissue application of U.S. Patent No. 6,298,019, issued October 2, 2001, which is a divisional application of Serial No. 08/688,294, filed July 29, 1996, now Patent No. 6,011,762, issued January 4, 2000.

Provided next is a Statement of Status and an Explanation of Support for amended claim 1, and newly added claims 16-44.

STATEMENT OF STATUS

By this Preliminary Amendment, claim 1 has been amended, and claims 16-44 has been newly added. Accordingly, upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, the status of the claims will be such that each of claims 1-44 will be pending in this reissue application. It is submitted that no new matter has been added.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

As a statement of support, it is submitted that amended claim 1, and each of newly added claims 16-44 is supported by at least the following portions of the disclosure of the patent:

- Figures 1, 2, 10, 13, 16, 26-29;
- column 16 (line 50) through column 18 (line 32);
- column 25 (line 1) through column 28 (line 9);
- column 31 (line 44) - column 34 (line 29);
- column 35 (line 66) - column 37 (line 8); and
- column 38 (line 24) - column 40 (line 47).

It is strongly submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and the Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event however that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any such matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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